

right thing, and sign commonsense welfare reform.

#### THE SPIRIT OF THE OLYMPICS

(Mr. LEWIS of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I attended the reopening of the Olympic Centennial Park in Atlanta. Tens of thousands of people, from all over the country and the world, turned out for a memorial service in honor of those killed and injured in the bomb blast that exploded early Saturday morning, shattering the tranquility of the Olympic games. They also turned out to demonstrate that they will not bow to the fear and intimidation of terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, the Olympic games represent the best of the human spirit, and in many ways the response of the people in Atlanta to this vicious act truly represented the Olympic spirit. Yesterday, the people of Atlanta, of Georgia, of our Nation, and the world came together in prayer and solidarity. It was a beautiful and moving experience to be in a crowd representing the true brotherhood of nations.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to commend the many people who acted heroically in the wake of this terrorist attack: the medical personnel, the law enforcement officials and the thousands of volunteers who averted an even greater disaster.

Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, the person who carried out this hideous crime will be found and prosecuted to the full extent of the law. In the meantime, we in the Congress should do everything in our power to pass legislation that will protect our citizens from such attacks in the future.

□ 1045

#### WELFARE SHOULD NOT BE A WAY OF LIFE

(Mr. BASS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, between 1965 and 1994 \$5.4 trillion has been spent on welfare. Federal, State, and local welfare spending rose from \$158 billion in 1975 to \$324 billion in 1993.

Now, my colleagues may think that welfare is thought of as providing short-term relief. Well, the fact is that the average stay on welfare today is 13 years.

Now, since 1950 the population of the United States has increased 72 percent, from 151 million to 260 million. At the same time, total welfare spending by Federal, State, and local governments has increased by 1,623 percent.

Mr. Speaker, today the House will pass a historic welfare reform bill that requires work and personal responsibility and lifts families from lives of despair and hopelessness.

Mr. Speaker, welfare should not be a way of life. Commonsense welfare reform will help end the vicious cycle of welfare dependency.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the President to sign this historic welfare proposal.

#### LET US DO THE JOB RIGHT ON ANTITERRORISM LEGISLATION

(Ms. MCKINNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress from the Metro-Atlanta area I, like the rest of the Nation, was horrified by the senseless bombing of innocent civilians at the Olympic Park.

As Americans, we have had a false sense of security that we are somehow immune to terrorism on our soil. However, Mr. Speaker, we have always had terrorist acts committed against Americans in the United States—we just did not call it terrorism.

Whether it was lynchings, church burnings, abortion clinic bombings, and now attacks by antigovernment groups, terrorism has, unfortunately, always been with us.

Mr. Speaker, it is time now that we dealt with all terrorist acts head on. Although the House passed the President's antiterrorism bill, it was watered-down to the point where it is almost ineffectual.

Now we have an opportunity to reintroduce the antiterrorism tools stripped from the legislation. Let us do the job right this time.

#### THIS IS THE SPIRIT OF THE OLYMPICS

(Mr. MANZULLO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, Theodore Roosevelt once said the credit belongs to the one who is actually in the arena and who spends time in a worthy cause. This is the spirit of the Olympics.

Shining examples of this indomitable spirit are Judy Wilmarth from Leaf River, IL, and Stephanie Brooks from Algonquin, IL. Judy helped carry the Olympic torch in Illinois, chosen because of her devotion to service to the needy and distribution of food. Fourteen-year old Stephanie Brooks is competing in the Paralympics in Atlanta. She is qualified for the 50- and the 100-meter free style and the 50-meter butterfly swimming events. She competes in these games as an elite athlete. These accomplishments stand in the face of the fact that Stephanie was born with spina bifida which has caused her to lose the use of her legs.

Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to salute these two Olympic champions: Judy Wilmarth and Stephanie Brooks.

FOLLOWING THE ORDERS OF THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION MUST STOP

(Mrs. LOWEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, it is time to give law enforcement officials the tools they need to prevent terrorist attacks in America. The Republican leadership must schedule a vote immediately on stronger measures to fight terrorism.

These proposals—requiring taggants in explosives and enhanced wiretapping authority—are absolutely critical in the war against terrorism.

These provisions should already be law, but were dropped from the original antiterrorism bill that Congress passed earlier this year.

They were dropped because this Republican Congress followed the orders of the National Rifle Association and took them out.

That was unacceptable then and it is unacceptable now.

Speaker GINGRICH must not allow the NRA to hold up swift passage of tough antiterrorism legislation. The Republican leadership must choose the safety and welfare of the American people over the objections of the NRA. This Republican Congress has spent the last 17 months following the orders of the NRA and it must stop.

Congress must take a united stand against terrorism both foreign and domestic now. We must make it very clear that we will use all the resources at our disposal to prevent and punish acts of terror.

#### NOT ONE LOGICAL REASON FOR THE PRESIDENT NOT TO SIGN CONGRESS' THIRD WELFARE REFORM BILL

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, our children are our country's most precious resource. They are the hope of the future. But today many children will grow up in a cycle of poverty and dependence, and that is a tragedy, Mr. Speaker.

Many of us came to Congress on a promise to do something about the failed welfare state. We want to end dependency, we want to encourage personal responsibility, we want to honor work so that welfare does not become a way of life.

President Clinton has already vetoed two welfare reform bills despite the promise during his campaign to, "end welfare as we know it." the jury is still out on whether or not the President will sign Congress' third effort to reform the welfare system. Personally, I cannot imagine one logical reason why Mr. Clinton would not sign the current bill.